

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

OUR LAW OFFICERS.

What They Did During 1870. Defects in the Record Jury Laws - Big Suits and Their Endings - City Solicitor Worrall's Annual Report.

We have been permitted to see the annual report of the City Solicitor's Department, or the Department of Law, Mr. Worrall says.

The past year has been one of unprecedented labor in the history of this department, multiplying and increasing with each month, until at last the mere attention to trials and executive duties engrossed all the time of the assistants, leaving no interim for research or deliberation.

During the ten months that I have been in office there have been 129 common law actions, to which the city was a party, down for trial in the several courts, 118 in the District Court, 10 in the Common Pleas, and 1 at Nisi Prius.

Among those adjudicated was that of Proximately vs. the city, in which the plaintiff sought to recover damages to the extent of \$4000, done to the drainage of his lot by the City of Philadelphia in abating a nuisance.

Two of the suits by the contractors for cleaning the streets, to recover the contract price for the same up to the time the act transferring the cleaning of the streets to the Board of Health was passed, have been tried, and as the contractors were entitled to some amount, Crawford received \$2384.54, instead of \$678.24 claimed, and McGuire \$7000, instead of \$2324.

In the case of Blanche Williams, claiming damages for injuries received at Fairmount, the jury in the District Court awarded her \$10,000.

The case involving the largest amount of money tried by this department during the year was Jenkins & Taylor vs. the City, commonly known as the "Nicolson pavement" case.

The Supreme Court having finally decided that the property owners were not liable for the cost of laying this pavement on Broad street, the contractors sued the city for the full amount, amounting to \$120,000.

The most important cases for the city, existing during the year, were those commonly known as the Schuylkill Navigation cases, being suits brought by that company for damages caused by the appropriation of the water in the Schuylkill for city purposes.

One of these was tried as a test case before Judge Thayer. The court charged against the city, and the jury rendered in accordance therewith. A writ of error has been taken, the case has been fully argued, and the matter is still under advisement.

The collections of the department can only be given from the date of my taking possession of the same, and are as follows: From water-pipe claims, \$40,337.53; " insurance, 879.44; " assessments for the opening of new streets, 36,619.03; " interest on bills, 835.51; " railroads, 7,438.46; " all other sources, 1,471.38.

Total receipts, \$46,741.95.

WANTS A HOTEL. The Ambition of the Germantownians. The Germantown Hotel Company is the title of a comedy, charted by the Legislature.

Washington Pastorius was elected President, and H. B. Dutton Secretary.

On motion of Mr. H. Bruner, the act of Incorporation was reported. It was then moved that a committee of three be appointed to draft by-laws.

THE PEABODY FUND.

Annual Meeting of the Trustees - Tribute of Respect to the Late Admiral Farragut.

As stated in The Telegram, the annual meeting of the Trustees of the Peabody Educational Fund was commenced on Wednesday at the Continental Hotel, and continued throughout Thursday.

The following Trustees were present at the meeting: Hon. Robert C. Winthrop, of Boston, Chairman; Hon. William M. Everts, of New York; Hon. Samuel M. Wetmore, of New York; Hon. John H. Clifford, of Boston; Hon. George Peabody Russell, of Salem; Blight Rey, Charles McKelvey, Cincinnati; Charles Macalester, Esq., of Philadelphia; George W. Riggs, Esq., of Washington, D. C.; and Samuel Watson, Esq., of Nashville, Tenn.

Governor Clifford then submitted the following resolutions: Resolved, That the disease of our beloved and honored associate, Admiral David Glasgow Farragut, since the last meeting of the board, has deprived us of the co-operation in our work of one of our most highly respected and able members.

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THIRD EDITION.

MATTERS AT WASHINGTON.

No News of the Tennessee.

The President Still Hopsful.

Public Buildings Appropriations.

The Latest N. Y. Railway Accident.

Cause of the Disaster.

The Great Fire in Maine.

FROM WASHINGTON.

No News of the Tennessee.

Special Dispatch to the Evening Telegraph.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17.—The Navy Department is still without any news concerning the Tennessee. The President informed Governor Morton yesterday that he did not expect to hear from the Tennessee until the arrival of the Tybee steamer at Key West or New York.

Pacific Railroad Interest.

The Senate Pacific Railroad Committee, at meeting to-day, discussed the question of interest due on bonds of the Pacific Railroad Company, but came to no conclusion.

Merchants Claim that they are entitled to full goods weight or measure when they are taken out, and not when they are entered.

New Public Buildings.

The Appropriation Committee to-day, on the urgent request of the Secretary of the Treasury, agreed to make several appropriations for the erection of new public buildings.

The Banking and Currency Committee.

Inasmuch as they cannot make any more reports this session, are compelled to allow all the recommendations of the Comptroller of the Currency in regard to the Redemption Bureau at New York and other matters to go over, because there will be no opportunity to bring them before the House, and the Commerce Committee of both houses have abandoned all idea of getting any legislation on national matters beyond the

River Harbor Appropriation Bill.

Subsidy measures, and all other schemes of that sort, unless they should be put on to the appropriation bills, are regarded as dead.

Naval Orders.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17.—Lieutenant Charles J. Sperry, Masters Wm. H. Becker and Benjamin S. Richards, Boatswain Joseph McDonald, and Carpenter R. G. Thomas, are ordered to the Supply. Surgeon Adrian Hudson is ordered to the Worcester, Lieutenant-Commander A. G. Kellogg from the Naval Academy, and Master Richard Rush, from Philadelphia Navy yard, are ordered to the Supply. The order of Surgeon Hackburg to the Worcester is revoked.

FROM NEW ENGLAND.

The Brunswick Fire.

BRUNSWICK, Me. Feb. 17.—The total loss by the fire of yesterday is about \$25,000. The principal losers are D. & E. Colby, sash and blind factory, and saw-mill; Arthur Coburn's saw-mill; S. E. Wing's grist-mill; James Berry's saw-mill; E. M. Stone's planing-mill; J. P. Stone, tool maker; William Stock, cotton bating, William Whitten, wool-carding, and Booker, Blether & Given, joiners. The insurances are small.

FROM NEW YORK.

The Railway Accident at Greensburg - Examination Resumed.

POUGHKEEPSIE, Feb. 17.—Information has been received here from a reliable source that the accident last night near Greensburg was caused by the spreading of the rails, and upon close examination by detectives, it was found that spikes had been drawn from one of the rails. This information has been imparted to the officials of the road, and a thorough investigation will take place immediately.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

Senate.

A number of bills were reported from committee, among them the following:— House bill extending the time for building the Pennsylvania Street Railroad; House bill allowing Hestonville, Mantua, and Fairmount Passenger Railway Company to lay a track on Fifty-second street; House bill incorporating the "Germania Turnverein" of Philadelphia was reported negatively. The following bills were introduced:— Mr. Davis, one to prevent the sale of scrap iron, brass, etc., in Berks county; Mr. Brooke, one to prevent hawking and peddling in Delaware county; Mr. Davis, one to prevent persons from jumping on or riding improperly on railroad cars; Mr. Mumma, a bill relative to the public lands at Harrisburg, which provides as follows:— The Governor be and he is hereby empowered to appoint a board of appraisers, to consist of the Surveyor-General, the Adjutant-General, and three citizens of the Commonwealth, whose duty it shall be to obtain the consent of the right of the corporation of the city of Harrisburg to any street or alley or lot on the east front of the public grounds in that city, situate between Third and Fourth streets, and to obtain by purchase a fee title upon any lot, building, or rights of individuals. In case said private owners and said appraisers cannot agree, then it shall be the duty of said appraisers to be duly qualified as road viewers are qualified, and thereupon proceed to value and appraise said property, taking into consideration the advantages and disadvantages resulting to the owner or owners thereof as citizens of the locality proposed to be improved, and make report to the Governor, who shall confirm or reject the same, and by him, shall be valid and binding upon all the parties; but before review all parties shall agree to the result of any proceedings under this act, and all expenses under it shall be paid out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated. This State, and conferring jurisdiction thereon. The court is to consist of three judges, to be first appointed by the Governor, and at the next election to be elected by the people. The President of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. There is to be a clerk for each district, and a court report. There are to be six districts. The terms are to be held in the following places:—The first at Philadelphia, the

second at Harrisburg, the third at Wilkesbarre, the fourth at Pittsburg, the fifth at Williamsport, and the sixth at Erie. The salaries are to be the same as those of the Judges of the Supreme Court, and they are to have exclusive jurisdiction of all matters now vested in the Supreme Court sitting in banc or otherwise, and determined on the equity side of said courts, and according to the rules of said courts, provided that the original bills, petitions, or other pleadings shall not be required to be printed where not now required, or by rules of court.

The entire morning session of the House was spent in the consideration of bills relating to the Greater County Prison and to local affairs in Allegheny county.

FROM EUROPE.

Ship News.

LIVERPOOL, Feb. 17.—Arrived, brig Gales Loring, from Mobile, with 201 bales of cotton; bark Clementina, from Savannah, with 292 bales; ship May Queen, from New Orleans, with 3260 bales; ship Augusta, from New Orleans, with 3260 bales.

This Morning's Quotations. LONDON, Feb. 17.—Consols, 92 for money and account. American securities firm, First of Feb. 1871, 104; 1872, 104; 1873, 104; 1874, 104; 1875, 104; 1876, 104; 1877, 104; 1878, 104; 1879, 104; 1880, 104; 1881, 104; 1882, 104; 1883, 104; 1884, 104; 1885, 104; 1886, 104; 1887, 104; 1888, 104; 1889, 104; 1890, 104; 1891, 104; 1892, 104; 1893, 104; 1894, 104; 1895, 104; 1896, 104; 1897, 104; 1898, 104; 1899, 104; 1900, 104; 1901, 104; 1902, 104; 1903, 104; 1904, 104; 1905, 104; 1906, 104; 1907, 104; 1908, 104; 1909, 104; 1910, 104; 1911, 104; 1912, 104; 1913, 104; 1914, 104; 1915, 104; 1916, 104; 1917, 104; 1918, 104; 1919, 104; 1920, 104; 1921, 104; 1922, 104; 1923, 104; 1924, 104; 1925, 104; 1926, 104; 1927, 104; 1928, 104; 1929, 104; 1930, 104; 1931, 104; 1932, 104; 1933, 104; 1934, 104; 1935, 104; 1936, 104; 1937, 104; 1938, 104; 1939, 104; 1940, 104; 1941, 104; 1942, 104; 1943, 104; 1944, 104; 1945, 104; 1946, 104; 1947, 104; 1948, 104; 1949, 104; 1950, 104; 1951, 104; 1952, 104; 1953, 104; 1954, 104; 1955, 104; 1956, 104; 1957, 104; 1958, 104; 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